



no borders.

equal rights as citizens
for all people, regardless of
immigration status
no deportations.
no detentions.

w w w . o r g a n i c c o l l e c t i v e . o r g
w w w . d e l e t e t h e b o r d e r . o r g

Still not convinced Minuteman = Ku Klux Klan? Come see for yourself!

This zine only brushes the surface of the hate these people are spewing. Come witness all the sexism, homophobia, xenophobia, racist stereotyping and ignorance you can shake a floodlight at. Join the fight against bigotry, hate and fear at the border— **No person is illegal, no border is legitimate, no racism is justified!**

Contact sdgenteunida@yahoo.com or info@organiccollective.org to join an anti-minuteman desert excursion or in town counter-demonstration and to help us actualize a world without borders!



Learn more about the struggle against the Minutemen and Save Our State at www.indymedia.org (San Diego, Bay Area, or Los Angeles links)

I tell people all the time -- if I was an illegal alien, I'd do the same damn thing. You think I'd want to live in a shit-hole like Mexico where my family was living off two bucks a day, living in squalor? I wouldn't want to have that for my family, so I'd do the same thing--I'd try to come here. Now, even though I would try to do the same thing if I was in their shoes, I'm not in their shoes, and I don't want to pay for them. We're not anti-illegal immigrant, per se. It's not like we go out and target the illegal alien and say "Hey, you're a scumbag and we want to kick your ass out." There are obviously people out there who say they want to shoot illegal aliens when they cross the border, but that's not where I'm at.

GO HOME
MINUTE MEN

We go after Home Depot, which we believe is a corporation that encourages and supports illegal immigration. We go after communities that establish day labor centers that we believe are used for illegal immigration. Then we go after employers by doing public targeting and taking cameras and they don't want to filmed picking up day laborers. We understand that although illegal aliens are a problem with respect to using our services and lack of assimilation and all those types of things, we realize that they're not really the true problem. The true problem is our government's ineffectiveness—you could argue complicity in actually aiding and abetting illegal aliens—and also these corporations and employers of illegal aliens.

Joe Turner is the founder of Save Our State and a Minuteman. He lives in Orange County California and can often be found harassing day laborers outside of Home Depot.

So when you see a Mexican flag on a porch, many of us have a reconquista impression that pops in our mind, whereas if you go to an Irish neighborhood or even a Vietnamese neighborhood, there's no inclination or desire to conquer this land to be Irish or something. Even though there is a double standard, there is some justification.

Let's say America did close the borders and managed to deport all of the illegals, do you think the actual immigration framework is effective? Would you want a temporary moratorium, as some advocate?

There are a lot of people out there, not necessarily in my organization because we're pretty pro-legal immigrant, but there are people out there who think immigration in general is too high. But I think much of it has to do with them being overwhelmed by illegal immigration. I'm not saying we need a moratorium on immigrants. That's not my position. I can understand the frustration that would drive people to have that position, that they're so frustrated with being invaded by so many illegals that they want to cut everything off.

I do think we need reforms. I think it's ridiculous that someone needs to take seven years to jump through all these bureaucratic hoops to prove that they should be a citizen. Our opposition likes to talk about reforming the legal immigration process, and I think they have some legitimate complaints there. I really think that if our country would take the stand that we're going to go after the employers of illegal immigrants, you really wouldn't even have to have military on the border or massive deportations. If you start cracking down on employers, the people fleeing Mexico would deport themselves because they wouldn't have the opportunity to get jobs.



speakers with voting materials or forms and documents at your local city or state government office — to the schools that are bending over backwards to teach in Spanish. It boggles my mind that we're required to publish voting materials in Spanish or any other language. To me, it's like, "You want to be in this country? Learn the language."

The assimilation thing, to me, isn't that big of a problem with the legal immigration community. Obviously, there will always be exceptions and, by the way, I think there are quite a few of illegal immigrants that try to assimilate — not the majority, by any stretch of the imagination.

I can guarantee there's a double standard with some of the illegal immigration activists in California. If they see a porch with a Mexican flag, they get all pissed off, but I bet they wouldn't get all pissed off if they drove past a house with an Irish flag on it or something. I think that's definitely an issue that is a little bit of a double standard on our side, and I think that's definitely fair to say.

Yeah, if the average American moved to Paris and was told to not listen to Nirvana while driving their car or to take down the American flag in their own home, it's easy to imagine the response.

Sure. The only caveat I would put to that is that you have to understand that there is an idea called the reconquista movement. There's this belief that the Southwestern United States was stolen from Mexico, and this is propagated by groups like MEChA, the student Chicano activist organization. They teach and preach that this land was stolen, and they talk about reconquering it, taking it back. If you talk to some, they'll say they mean by force, and some will say they just mean a spiritual sort of liberation of their people, whatever high and mighty language they want to give you.

"Years of inculturation by the doctrines of political correctness have left you emasculated and impotent, silenced by the thunderous chants of 'racist' and 'bigot.' And there you stand and watch, paralyzed by fear, as your community is ravaged by the illegal alien invasion and turned into a Third World cesspool."

SOS website

they've even tagged along to our events and caused a lot of friction and problems. I can't keep ANSWER LA from counter-demonstrating and I can't keep these guys from following us.

We talk about propaganda, the propaganda the opposition uses is that we're the Minutemen, we're racists, we're bigots, we're trying to kill illegal immigrants, whatever they say to rile their people. They have their propaganda tools and we have our propaganda tools. I understand the rules of the games, and that's one of the rules: they say we're racists and we tell them they're anti-American.

One of the recurring themes I've seen on the boards is anger at a perceived failure to assimilate into American culture. I assume that extends into legal immigrants as well as illegal?

Of course.

So legal immigrants should be obligated – where's the line? There are a lot of comments about people listening to Mexican music in their vehicles, flying Mexican flags on their houses – do you actually want that sort of thing discouraged or legislated against?

No, it should not be legislated, because I believe in as limited government as possible. I think what you actually do by having less government is that you encourage assimilation. We've seen with legal and illegal immigrants – you see a lot of legislation for English as a Second Language programs, you see catering to non-English



I have a lot of people who hate my guts, like the LA Indymedia sites or ANSWER LA or the Socialist Worker – a lot of them hate my guts. But I've actually flirted with the idea of approaching some of them and saying, "Hey, do you want to team up on certain things?" They can mobilize folks and I have ideas – we could take down a Home Depot. I don't know how realistic it is. If I try to go and outreach to them, I might be pissing off people in my organization who don't want to work with socialist-type people. There are always those types of frictions.

Jumping back a little – you were talking about using propaganda and the pictures of people kicking American flags and so forth. On the flipside, are you leery of behavior from your own members and supporters? In spending just a little time on the Save Our State message boards, I saw user icons of the Mexican flag on fire, I saw references to Mexicans—not illegal immigrants—as “dirty beaners,” “cockroaches,” and “hysterical pigs.” Is that something that you try to monitor or want to monitor?

I haven't been on the board, actually, in the last day or so, but I haven't seen anyone referred to as “beaners” or “cockroaches” on the message board – and certainly not immigrants as a whole, because we actually have legal immigrants in our organization who join us at rallies. But I do monitor my website pretty aggressively, and I've had to delete a shitload of white supremacists who want to come over and throw epithets. I've also had to delete members of the opposition who come in and try to invade our boards and use trollish behavior.

I don't support any sort of racial supremacy ideology. We definitely have had a problem as far as an influx; essentially, our message board is public. Up until recently, you could simply validate your e-mail account and be on the message board, so not everything said on there is representative of what Save Our State believes. I monitor it and I'm concerned about it.

One of the interesting side effects of us being active, because I'm an aggressive person, I'm a young guy, and I'm tired of all this bullshit—the Stormfront-type population have started doing their own rallies now, and

there's some huge catalytic event out there like a 9/11-style attack that's traced back to someone crossing the Mexican border

One of the reasons why they have such an inherent advantage is that they have a lot of these college kids or kids—a lot of them are socialists and so forth—and it's more of a communal-type atmosphere and you have kids who basically have nothing else to do but school and rally, whereas the members of our organization and movement are, generally speaking, just average middle-class people who want to work 9-to-5, mind their own business, spend time with their family and go home and not deal with all these problems. The idea is that if I can get Joe Blow citizens who are fed up with this problem and will go out in the streets and protest, that will send a huge message to our elected officials about how pissed off the American people are.

In many ways, what I'm trying to do is co-opt much of the strategy and ideas and objectives from an activism standpoint that are used by my opposition, but it's a slow process. I think the irony is that, in many respects, the views held on our side of the movement are actually very closely held by the people you represent—for example, the NAFTAs and CAFTAs and stuff like that. As a whole, we're generally anti-free trade agreements, we're more of a populace-based movement. In many ways, our opposition is not really adjusting to that, and they're constantly resorting to referring to us as "racists" and "bigots" because that's their only argument, their only tool. They can't really debate us on facts and logic; that's what we maintain.

At Save Our State, we're very anti-Home Depot. It's a corporate giant that many people in our opposition don't like, either — they're non-union, they're a corporate behemoth and so forth. We might obviously oppose them for different reasons, but a lot of these things are, I think, a little unsettling for our opposition.

*I particularly
remember when
our group of "Grin-
gos" was told
to get out of the
shade and into the
sun so we could
get skin
cancer and die."*

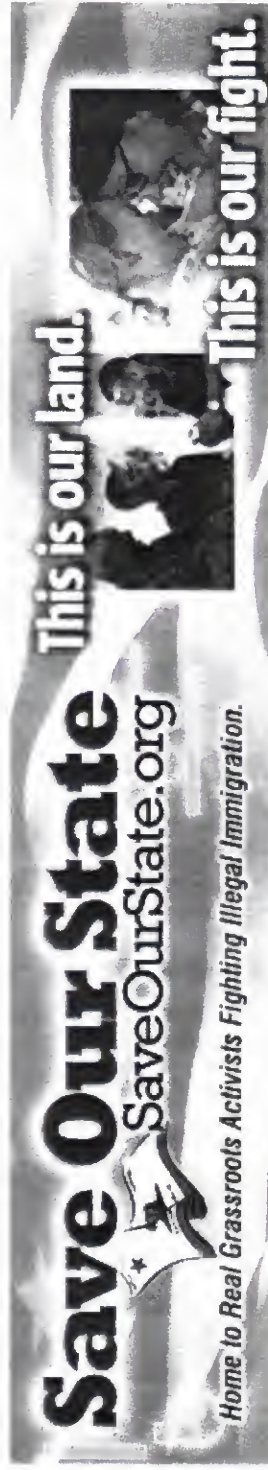
Joe Turner,
2.14.05

So you met the goal of that protest, then? Did you ever think that they would actually remove the artwork in question?

First and foremost, I never called on the actual removal of the monument; that's one of the fallacies or red herrings that the opposition has spun out there. I simply asked for a couple passages to be removed. I actually think that the monument itself is quite aesthetically pleasing. I'll be frank: I wasn't ever expecting the city of Baldwin Park to cave in and say, "We're going to take down that language." It just obviously wouldn't work that way. But if you talk to people at ANSWER or what not, they'll say, "Oh, those racists at Save Our State were outnumbered 10 to 1 or 15 to 1 each time they came out." Well, yeah, that might be true, but I don't measure success or victory by the size of the crowd turnout. I'm looking to inflict economic damage, and I'm also looking to use the size of the crowd that opposes us to our propaganda advantage, with respect to showing the public all of the Mexican flags waving, the American flags they're kicking, their violence against us, the epithets they hurl at us. The opposition doesn't understand that we're fighting two different battles. We're on the same battlefield, but their battle is completely different.

How do you mobilize and try to reach out to new supporters?

Most of it is through our e-mail and website and message board. I give our opposition credit for being adept at mobilization and getting people out there. I'm never going to be able to match them or compete with them unless



Save Our State
SaveOurState.org

Home to Real Grassroots Activists Fighting Illegal Immigration.

This is our land.

This is our fight.

The advertisement features a banner with a grayscale background image of a crowd. On the left, a hand holds a flag with a star. The text 'Save Our State' is in large, bold, black letters, with 'SaveOurState.org' below it. At the bottom, a tagline reads 'Home to Real Grassroots Activists Fighting Illegal Immigration.' On the right side, two vertical text overlays are present: 'This is our land.' and 'This is our fight.' The latter is positioned over a smaller inset image of a group of people.

JOSEPH TURNER, SAVE OUR STATE

What is the mission statement of Save Our State?



We are a small, hardcore group of grassroots activists who are dedicated to doing more than simply talking about the problem or writing letters in respect to illegal immigration. We take a very aggressive, in-your-face stance on the illegal immigration issue. Obviously, if I could be king for a day, it would be to shut the borders and deport all the illegal aliens. But our group, since we're a small group and we're less than a year old, is designed to create little victories and create positive momentum as we grow to accomplish larger objectives. I'm not looking to take on the world right now, but to mobilize people and get them active.

What led you to founding a group instead of joining a group?

I'm a leader by nature, first and foremost. I like to be in control, and I feel that I have a pulse on the American people in general, and especially on this issue. There are groups out there doing positive things for the movement, but I feel there's not a group quite like ours that's aggressive and stirring up trouble. If you're looking to write letters or call your congressman, go join another organization. Our belief is that if that worked or had any sort of positive influence, we wouldn't be in the situation we're in. The founding principle of our organization is a philosophy called the transference of pain. It's a very simple concept, and it just means that if you do not make it painful enough for an organization or entity to continue doing what they're doing, then they're simply going to keep doing it. That pain can take any number of shapes or forms. If you're a politician, the pain could be at the ballot box or in the polls. If it's a corporation, it's inflicting the bottom line or their PR and image and things like that.



National Alliance neo-nazis.



Robert Floyd, Stromfront

National Vanguard [sic], National Alliance, and all those asinine supremacist organizations are nasty, with nasty goals and nasty objectives. They are, however, boots on the ground and if you want to show numbers, they are allies.

Kathy58 posting on the Save Our State website

assassin Martin Luther King Jr. Years after his release, in the 1980s, he gained some more notoriety for spilling on a mentally retarded black girl.

Anti-fascist researcher Dave Emory argues that the Minutemen of the 60s were "the most important of America's paramilitary organizations" and a "prototype and direct precursor of the modern militia movement [that] overlapped many domestic fascist organizations, such as the American Nazi Party, the Christian Defense League, Ku Klux Klan and National States Rights Party." That overlap is well-represented by 1960s Minutemen member and local crackpot Tom Metzger, leader of the White Aryan Resistance, former Grand Dragon of the California Klan, and felon convicted in 1990 of inciting skinheads to murder an Ethiopian man in Portland, Ore.

Metzger bemoans today's Minutemen for going "out of their way to claim not to be racist. They are hypocrites of the worst order. They go on and on that they want no racists among them. What a joke." Metzger must be delighted that members of racist groups like the National Alliance show up at Minutemen rallies and fly swastika flags; that Bill Parmley, former Texas Minutemen leader, quit a few months ago and denounced the Minutemen as racists, citing comments made by members in support of shooting and dehydrating border crossers; and that our local Minutemen leader, Oceanside's Jim Chase, admitted that his armed patrolling attracted "rogue" elements, likely responsible for the shootings that wounded two men at the border this summer.

What's in a name? Sometimes a hell of a lot. Simcox and Gilchrist claim that their Minutemen "have no affiliation with, nor... accept any assistance by or interference from separatists, racists or supremacy groups or individuals," but that's lip service, public relations, a scam—and some mainstream media and right-wing politicians have fallen for it. They quote Sam Adams and paste illustrations of American revolutionaries on their website, sidestepping nearly a century of border-patrolling, immigrant-bashing, like-minded, bloodthirsty Nazis calling themselves Minutemen, as if they could start over fresh with the same name—not to mention tactics—and supposedly expunge it of its racist heritage.

But names gain their meaning in real, not ideal, contexts. Nobody would believe your swastika tattoo represented a lucky Indian sun sign if you were a white, jack-booted, skinhead leader of an Oi! band. Think a Muslim political party could call itself "Al-Qaeda, but not that Al-Qaeda?" It just means "foundation," right? Wrong. It means flying planes into buildings in the same way Minutemen means harassing and attacking people at the border. Names, words, symbols and signs get wrecked. Ignoring their history is disingenuous.

No doubt, if they had contrived a less historically dubious euphemism like "Citizens in Favor of Building a Giant Electric Fence Around the U.S.A.," the vigilantes still would've attracted separatists, racists and supremacy groups because, as we all know, that's who vigilantes are. But that they can so un-problematically call themselves Minutemen proves that these assholes are either closet Nazis or selectively ignorant of U.S. history or, most likely, both.

Excerpts from PRESENTLY TENSE What's in a name? Modern Minutemen can't talk their way out of their moniker's past by D.A. Kolodenko, San Diego City Beat 12.21.05

Back in the day, in order to prevent the growing Mexican/Jewish conspiracy to force white Christian Americans into eating tortillas and bagels instead of Wonderbread, the San Diego chapter of the KKK "began to merge with like-minded organizations such as The Silver Shirts League, The MinuteMen and the White Guards."

You read it right. According to Carlos Larralde and Richard Griswold del Castillo, in their essay on the legacy of our hometown Klan in *The Journal of San Diego History*, a local, anti-immigrant, racist group identified itself as the Minutemen more than 70 years ago. Turns out our current crop of self-proclaimed defenders of America are by no means the first racists to appropriate the moniker of the young Massachusetts militiamen of the American Revolution—they're just the first to closet their racism.

How racist were the old-school Minutemen? L. David Russell, who actually criticizes Larralde and del Castillo for a lack of nuance in attacking the KKK, in his Copley Award-winning thesis on the San Diego Klan, agrees with them on at least this point: the Minutemen of the 1930s were a "militaristic, Nazi-inspired [group] dedicated to missions of violence" whose "obvious" similarity to the KKK was "racism." The Minutemen were even worse than the Klan? Wow.

OK, but have any other local, white supremacist, immigrant-hating groups called themselves Minutemen since then? Why, yes, and, as my uncle used to say, reading from the Passover Haggadah, "I'm so touched by your question." Seattle-based independent journalist and author David Niewert in his "Orcinus" blog, describes the 1960s incarnation of the Minutemen as extreme right-wingers who stockpiled weapons for an impending war between the white descendants of Adam and the communists who'd taken over the U.S. government. Their founder, Robert De Pugh, a felon convicted on charges of weapons stockpiling and child sexual molestation, led the Minutemen in terrorist acts, allegedly including schemes to blow up summer camps and put cyanide in air-conditioning ducts at a United Nations building in New York. Their plot to bomb a city hall building in Redmond, Wash., got De Pugh and his Minute-henchmen nabbed by the FBI and sent to prison.

Oh yeah, and they really, really didn't like Jews or people of color. For example, one Minutemen member, neo-Nazi Keith Gilbert, wound up in San Quentin in 1965 for hoarding 1,500 pounds of dynamite in his Glendale home, with which he planned to

DISSENTION and DELUSION from California Border Watch, November 2005

"California Border Watch no longer supports Minuteman Project (James Glitchrist), Minuteman Civil Defense Corps (Chris Simcox), Mountain Minutemen (Robert Crooks), AZ Border Watch (David Hepler), or Friends of the Border Patrol (Andy Ramirez). You cannot work with them and us.

BorderWatch.us/Border Watch Federation-BWF/California Border-CBW does not work with groups that allow racists, separatists, KKK, or are just in it for the money, the fame, or being a string puppet to gain favor with Washington DC who hasn't done anything about the border whatsoever, which is why we started this effort, remember? Also our focus is on a secure border more than it is illegal immigration because a secure border ends illegal immigration but it also ends easy drug running across the border, terrorist infiltrations by land etc.

Border Watchers do not even befriend racists. We have an absolute policy of no friendly contact with racists of any color. The desired makeup of our ranks is a rainbow of colors and races with a common goal of safe and secure borders.

Border groups with racist, financially corrupt, morally bankrupt, empire building, self centered leaders are a dime a dozen. Join them, if you even dream of breaking the law or you hate anyone... We are not about hate but we are a lawful moral attempt to obtain safe and secure borders for the protection of America's children."

**Conversation with
California Border
Watcher, 1.09.06
Campo CA, @ midnight**

Border Watcher: We all
have equal rights.

Protester: Don't try to tell
me that you as a white
male and me as a queer
woman have the same
rights.

Border Watcher: Oh, well
that's different. Homosexu-
als are perverts.

Protester: See, that's exactly
what I'm talking about...
Don't ever try to tell anyone
that you aren't a bigot!

The Minutemen and their allies are constantly insisting that they are not racists...in fact, they become downright indignant about it. In this pamphlet we pose the question...:

Why are white supremacists & bigots so eager to support your cause?



National Alliance members at a Save Our State rally in Laguna Beach, CA

MINUTEMAN =



Minuteman volunteer at his border post in Arizona, April 2005.



David Duke patrols the US/Mexico border with the Klan in the late 1970s.



National Vanguard members at a Save Our State rally, 6.25.05

KU KLUX KLAN